

It is presented as a book for the general practitioner who in his work is called upon to give advice in conditions which, in the course of years, will cover the whole domain of medicine and surgery. For the physician whose lot falls away from the medical centres this book will prove an especial boon and will in part compensate him for the lack of broadening and stimulating influence of the general and special medical societies, with their ready access to medical libraries and current medical literature.

The division of the matter into the main headings of medicine, surgery, eye, ear, nose, throat, and skin, is a natural one and much more acceptable for general and special reading than the oft used alphabetical arrangement.

As an actual working tool, in the hands of a practitioner who has no further access to medical knowledge, it has suffered from the necessary condensation imposed on the writers.

As a general medical educator, this book should prove invaluable in the hands of those who might otherwise fail to keep abreast of the landmarks in medical progress. It also offers to the practitioner an opportunity to keep his general knowledge in a well rounded form.

A. A. H.

WHAT HEART PATIENTS SHOULD KNOW AND DO. By JAMES HENRY HONAN, M.D., Special Lecturer on Cardio-vascular Disease in the Univ. of Georgia, etc.; pp. 204. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1913.

THE object of this book, in the words of the author's preface, is to give encouragement and hope to those who know they have heart trouble, to urge those who are suspicious of its presence, to seek advice in time; to help, if possible, both these classes of persons to make the most of their lives with the limitations which deviation from the normal imposes. To this end the first half of volume, and to the reviewer's mind much the more valuable half, is devoted to hygienic considerations, adapted especially to heart patients, under such capitals as relaxation, clothing, exercise, diet, sleep, etc. In the latter half, having presumably obtained the interest of the reader, the dryer and more technical anatomical and pathological details are considered. Emphasis is laid throughout on the fact that "this book is in no sense to be a substitute for the physician, nor a promise of health to all who read its pages."

The advisability of offering such a book to the lay public is in itself open to criticism.

Given the need for such advice in printed form, the recommendations are excellent.

Objection might be taken to a few details: the laity do not gener-

ally believe that a valvular defect is always fatal (p. 158); it is misleading to call angina pectoris an affection of the arteries, so "that we may have anginal pains in any part of the body (p. 171). Between forty-five and sixty years of age is rather high for the average incidence of the disease. It is rather sweeping to say that "when a child is attacked by rheumatism the heart is almost invariably involved," p. 184). Such small points, however, hardly detract from the excellent presentation in a popular way of a difficult subject.

E. B. K.

THE ELEMENTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TECHNIC. A LABORATORY GUIDE FOR MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND TECHNICAL STUDENTS. By J. W. H. EYRE, M.D., M.S., F.R.S., (Edin.) Director of the Bacteriological Department of Guy's Hospital, London, and Lecturer on Bacteriology in the Medical and Dental Schools. Second edition: pp. 518; 219 illustrations. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company, 1913.

THIS new edition of Dr. Eyre's well known and exceedingly valuable book on technique was occasioned by the growth of literature in recent years. The plan of the work is essentially the same as in the first edition. It can be used as a desk book by the student or individual worker, or as a guide for a teacher in laying out a course in practical bacteriology. The first part of the book is devoted to describing the behavior of the laboratory worker and familiarizing him with the surroundings and apparatus. Then follows a short description of the biological status of microorganisms, which is succeeded by an account of the manufacture of the media upon which they are grown. In natural sequence then are given methods of isolation, cultivation, identification, and inoculation of microorganisms. The eighteenth chapter is devoted to the study of experimental infection during life with which is included serology applicable also to natural human infections. The blood picture and temperature of experimental animals are given. Post mortem material is discussed next. A chapter is devoted to the special consideration of pathogenic bacteria. The final chapter and the appendix are among the most important and useful sections of the book. The former contains methods for the examinations of water, soil, foods, sewage, air, and disinfectants, including detailed lists of the necessary paraphernalia; while the appendix gives tables for weights and measures, computing thermometric scales, preparing dilutions, estimating pressure, and the use of autiformin. The book is well arranged, and the cuts are all clear and instructive.

H. F.